

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 INT-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /082 W

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R 021100Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3621

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN AO

SUBJECT: NO MORE LEGAL DIAMONDS FOR AWHILE

1. ANGOLA'S DIAMOND MINING COMPANY, DIAMANG, HAS TOLD ITS FUEL SUPPLIERS TO STOP ALL DELIVERIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPARENTLY THE NEXT STEP IN WINDING DOWN THE OPERATION. TWO WEEKS AGO MOST OF THE COMPANY'S WHITE EMPLOYEES WERE EVACUATED FROM DIAMANG'S CONCESSION AREA IN EASTERN ANGOLA.

2. AN EMPLOYEE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN RECENTLY TOLD A U.S. JOURNALIST IN JO'BURG THAT 50 PERCENT OF DIAMANG'S OUTPUT IS BEING SYPHONED OFF INTO ILLICIT BY THE DIAMANG WORKFORCE AND THE COMPANY HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO STOP MINING ACTIVITY. (ANGLO-AMERICAN OWNS ONLY ABOUT 10 PERCENT PERCENTAGE OF DIAMANG BUT APPARENTLY EXERCISES A MUCH GREATER INFLUENCE ON MANAGEMENT THAN ITS OWNERSHIP WOULD OTHERWISE SUGGEST.

3. MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO VISITED THE DIAMANG AREA JUST BEFORE THE COMPANY TOLD ITS FUEL SUPPLIERS TO SUSPEND DELIVERIES.

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4. COMMENT: THINKING HERE IS THAT DIAMANG'S STRATEGY

IS TWOFOLD: A) STOP THE DIVERSION OF STONES AND B)
REMIND THE GOVERNMENT-TO-BE THAT DIAMONDS DON'T MINE
THEMSELVES, THAT THE COMPANY'S EXPERTISE IS NECESSARY.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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